



NEWS

State of Delaware
Department of Finance
Division of Revenue
www.revenue.delaware.gov

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ONLINE LIST OF DELINQUENT DELAWARE TAXPAYERS PAYING OFF

Statewide – September 6, 2007 – Delaware Division of Revenue Director Patrick Carter announced today that since Delaware's Delinquent Taxpayers website went live in February 2007, the state has collected more than \$938,000 in back taxes. On September 6th the next round of delinquent individuals and businesses will be available online for public view.

"We're extremely pleased the results have been so positive so early on," Carter says. "Most taxpayers remitting to this point have been individuals and businesses with longstanding accounts. Where prior collection attempts failed, the Delinquent Taxpayers list has motivated some of Delaware's more elusive tax delinquents to finally come forward and pay up."

Since its inception the Delinquent Taxpayers page – www.revenue.delaware.gov/ddt.shtml – has encouraged more than 150 Delaware taxpayers to enter into a payment agreements or resolve their unpaid tax bills. By legislative order, accounts with larger balances were targeted first for publication. The next 100 consecutive business and 100 consecutive personal unresolved balances over \$1,000 are posted online each quarter.

Rep. Deborah Hudson, who proposed the program and sponsored the legislation that established the posting requirements for Delaware's delinquent taxpayers, says, "I felt the social pressure from public posting of the names of delinquent taxpayers was worth the effort, particularly because of the minimal cost to the state. The success of this program has been outstanding and I expect many more individual and business taxpayers to address their overdue accounts."

To meet the criteria for posting to the Delaware Delinquent Taxpayers site, individuals and businesses must have already received a judgment for unpaid taxes. They are then notified by mail that their name may be posted online and given 60 days to respond. The names of those who enter into a payment agreement with the Division of Revenue or pay their balance in full are either not published or will be removed from the Delinquent Taxpayers list, depending on when the agreement takes place. Taxpayers who have filed for bankruptcy protection or have incurred a liability that is being appealed are excluded from the published list until their case has been resolved.

Since the inception of the program more than 1,100 letters have been sent to Delaware taxpayers alerting them that their names and addresses may be posted online. The newest round of delinquent individuals and businesses will be published September 6th.

"If our success so far is any indication, we can expect even more taxpayers to come forward in the coming weeks and enter into agreements to pay their unresolved balances," Carter says. "This ultimately helps the entire state stay on track."

Delaware is one of over 20 states and the District of Columbia to publish delinquent taxpayers online.

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